

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended)

A method for the selection of molecules active in the prevention and/or treatment of Huntington's Disease ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ability of said molecules to inhibit the activity of the NRSE element is evaluated.

2. (original)

A method according to claim 1 comprising the following steps:

- (a) incubation of said molecules in presence of a cell system, stably transfected with the NRSE sequence inserted upstream of a reporter gene,
- (b) evaluation of inhibition of the NRSE sequence activity by measurement of gene reporter activity.

3. (original)

A method according to claim 2, wherein said reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene, the luciferase gene and the green fluorescent protein gene.

4. (currently amended)

A method according to ~~claims 2 and 3~~ claim 2, wherein said cells are cells expressing mutated ~~huntingtin~~ huntingtin.

5. (currently amended)

A method according to ~~claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, further comprising the evaluation of the amounts of REST factor in the

cytoplasm and/or nucleus of said cells.

6. (currently amended)

A cellular system suitable to perform the method described in ~~claims 1-5~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it consists of cells that are engineered to stably contain the NRSE sequence inserted upstream of a reporter gene.

7. (original)

A cellular system according to claim 6 wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene, the luciferase gene and the green fluorescent protein gene.

8. (currently amended)

A cellular system according to ~~claims 6-7~~ claim 6, whose cells are neuronal cells.

9. (original)

A cellular system according to claim 8, whose cells are striatal cells.

10. (currently amended)

A cellular system according to ~~claim 6-9~~ claim 6 whose cells are either parental cells or cells expressing huntingtin.

11. (currently amended)

A process for the production of the cellular system described in ~~claims 6-10~~ claim 6 that comprises:

- (a) the obtainment of a vector with the NRSE sequence inserted upstream of a reporter gene and
- (b) transfection of the cells of this system with said vector.

12. (original)

A process according to claim 11, wherein said vector is the NRSE-TK-LUC construct.

13. (currently amended)

A transfection vector suitable to be used in a process according to ~~claims 11-12~~ claim 11, whose sequence comprises the NRSE sequence inserted upstream of a reporter gene.

14. (original)

A transfection vector according to claim 13, wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene, the luciferase gene and the green fluorescent protein gene.

15. (original)

A vector according to claim 13 which is the NRSE-TK-LUC construct.

16. (currently amended)

A method for the selection of molecules able to act in the prevention and/or treatment of Huntington's disease ~~characterized~~ by comprising the following steps:

- (a) incubating said molecules with a cellular system
- (b) evaluating the decrease of REST transcription factor in the cytoplasm and/or its increase in the nucleus of said cells.

17. (currently amended)

~~Use of NRSE inhibitors in the preparation of a medicament useful in the prevention and/or treatment of Huntington's Disease.~~

Therapeutic method for the prevention and/or treatment of Huntington's disease comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a NRSE inhibitor.

18. (currently amended)

A NRSE inhibitor compound, selected by the method described in ~~claims 1-5, 16,~~ claim 1.

19. (new)

A NRSE inhibitor compound, selected by the method described in claim 16.